

Nominations For Incentive Award

The Incentive Awards Committee will be meeting soon. Please take the time to submit a nomination for your co-workers who you feel are eligible for an incentive award.

The **eligibility criteria** is as follows:

- * **Cost Savings or Increased Earnings:** Recommending procedures either within the employee's own job assignment or any other job assignment within the department which would decrease costs or recommending procedures which would increase earnings within the Department or State.
- * **Job Efficiencies:** Suggestions or implementation of methods which would conserve time in accomplishing the overall job objective, such as eliminating unnecessary steps, establishing a new more economical method for reaching the desired end product, etc.
- * **Leadership or Initiative:** Exercising leadership and/or initiative beyond that normally expected in an individual's assignment, such as carrying out assignments in a manner exceeding normal performance standards, willingly accepting and meeting required emergency or unusual deadlines requiring time and initiative beyond the normal scope of the position, etc.
- * **Exemplary Performance on Special Projects:** Carrying out an assigned project(s) that exceeds expected standards.
- * **Exemplary Performance on Team Projects:** Carrying out an assignment on a team project and individually exceeding expected standards (within the team structure).

Nominations must be turned in to Norma Atkinson no later than May 21, 2004. If you need an nomination form, please call her at 538-7112.

Nominate An Employee Of The Year

There are several UDAF employees who go above and beyond" nearly every day who deserve the title "Employee of the Year." Maybe it's you.

Now is the time to submit your nomination

for outstanding employee of the year. There is no nomination form for this, simply write up your nomination based on the following criteria, and submit it to Norma Atkinson in Human Resources by Friday, May 28th: (i) extraordinary competence in performing his/her function; (ii) creativity in identifying problems and devising workable, cost-effective solutions to them; (iii) excellent relationships with the public and other employees; (iv) a commitment to serving the public as the client, and (v) a commitment to economy and efficiency in government. **The nomination deadline is May 28, 2004.**

HAVE YOUR WELL WATER TESTED FOR FREE

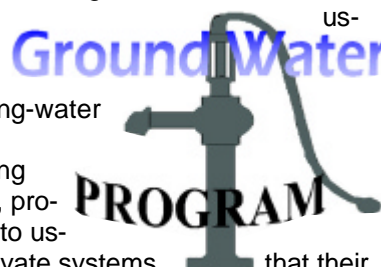
The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF) is sponsoring a non-regulatory, free ground water testing program for privately-owned (non-community) water-supply systems, including wells and springs. Water is tested for bacteria, pesticides, nitrates and inorganic minerals.

WHY IS THIS SERVICE OFFERED FOR FREE?

The Federal Safe Drinking Water Act provides an important service in assuring the nation's community water-supply users that the culinary water they use meets current drinking-water standards.

The Safe Drinking Water Act, however, provides no assurance to users of water from private systems that their water is safe. The Utah State Legislature has authorized funding for a statewide sampling and testing program for private wells and springs so that users of private systems can enjoy the same advantages that are provided to users of public systems through the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Funding is also provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for pesticide screening. Contact Mark Quilter, (801) 538-9905 or Rich Riding, (801) 538-7190 for details.



UTAH AG NEWS

May

2004

Agriculture: Your Food Resource

on the

web



Governor
Commissioner of Agriculture and Food
Deputy Commissioner
Public Information Officer

Olene S. Walker
Cary G. Peterson
Kyle R. Stephens
Larry Lewis

Volunteers Turn Out Statewide To Help Improve Watershed Quality During Take Pride In Utah Day

Governor Walker Signs Take Pride In Utah Declaration

A small army of volunteers from Ogden to St. George planted trees along streams, picked up debris, erected signs, repair wildlife habitat, and more as part of a two-day kickoff of the 2004 Take Pride in Utah Day. The activities are part of Gov. Olene Walker's Watershed Initiative that identifies 25 waterways for water quality improvement.

Participants in the two-day event were: Governor Walker; Lt. Governor McKeachnie; U.S. Interior Asst. Secty, Lynn Scarlett; DEQ Executive Dir. Dianne Nielson; DNR Executive Director, Bob Morgan; Utah Commissioner of Agriculture and Food, Cary G. Peterson; State Senator, Mike Dmitrich; State Rep. Brad King; Utah Division of Water Quality Director, Don Ostler; Utah Division of Wildlife Resources Director, Miles Moretti.

The program featured the following activities:

- * Governor Walker declaring April 17 to May 22 as Take Pride In Utah Days.
- * Tree planting along the Beaver River.
- * Stream bank clean up along the Ogden River and presentation of the Governor's Watershed Improvement Award.
- * Tree planning along the Jordan River, SLC, Utah.
- * Vegetation planting, East Canyon Creek, Summit Co.
- * Vegetation planting and adding signs to protect soils along Onion Creek near Moab, Utah.
- * Repair wildlife habitat, plant vegetation, along Cottonwood Wash near Blanding, Utah.
- * Noxious weed removal near Virgin River and Quail Creek Reservoir, Washington Co.
- * Wasatch Mountain Parrothead Club cleans trash and debris from the Rainbow Bay area of Deer Creek Reservoir

Commissioner Peterson Promotes Watershed Improvement During Beaver Watershed Day

As part of Governor Walker's Watershed Initiative and the Adopt-A-Waterbody program, Commissioner Cary G. Peterson, joined 200 volunteers from Beaver High School and other local groups to plant trees and clean up two sites in the Beaver Watershed. The Commissioner also presented the Governor's Watershed Improvement Awards to project organizers.

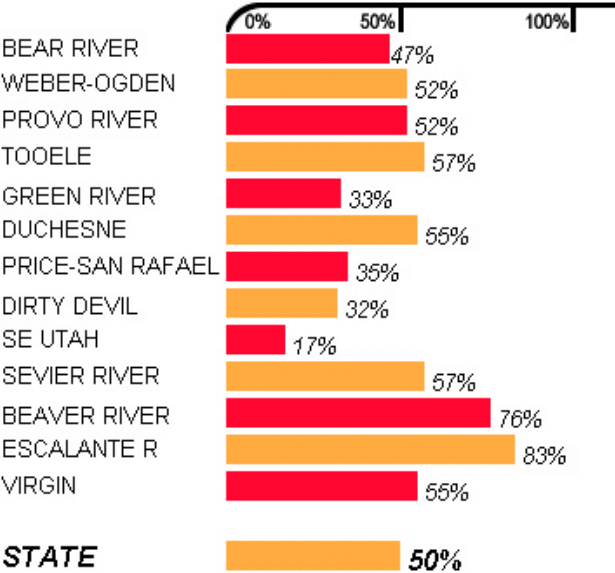
The Beaver Watershed is on the Governor's list of 25 water bodies that are designated as high priority for water quality improvement projects. This event is one of several watershed cleanup and improvement events taking place as part of Take Pride in Utah month.

The Governor has called for individuals and groups throughout Utah to participate in water quality improvement projects by adopting a waterbody. For more information about this project, contact: Mark Nelson, USU Extension, Beaver County, 435/438-6451.



Commissioner Cary G. Peterson is joined by four Beaver High School students during Beaver Watershed Day. The students planted trees and clean up sites in the Beaver Watershed April 16 as part of Take Pride In Utah Day.

Utah Snowpack Totals updated: 04/19/04



Improved Watershed Management Translates Into More Water For Utah

As Utah heads into yet another drought year, there is at least one reservoir that is filled to the brim, thanks to thoughtful watershed management.

The Vernon Reservoir in Tooele County is enjoying plenty of water, thanks to a 40-year long program that removed invasive species of plants and trees, and replaced them with vegetation that promote water retention in the soil and into the underground aquifers.

This example of watershed management was offered by Commissioner Peterson, along with DEQ Executive Director, Dianne Nielson and DNR Executive Director Bob Morgan to the Utah Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee recently.

It is estimated that properly managed watersheds in Utah can generate more than 100,000 acre feet of water per year.